extension, up to 31st May. Have they assured that this will be the final extension? Part (b) of my question is, since the report is going to be very bad, will the Government use its power to improve it?

श्री राधा कृष्ण मालवीय : सर, उनकी रिक्वेस्ट पर, जैसा कि मैंने बताया, अभी 31-5-1989 तक उनकी अवधि बढ़ा दी गई है।

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : It is high time this report is given.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Setting up of nitrogen fertiliser palnts at Paradip in the private sector

*161. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPARTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering the establishment of a nitrogen fertilizer plant at Paradip in Orissa in the private sector;

(b) whether any proposal to that effect has recently been received by Government; and

(c) if so, by when the said plant is likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL) : (a) to (c) A proposal has been receied from M/s. Century Spinning & Manufacturing Company Ltd. for setting up a 900/1500 tpd ammonia/urea plant, based on naphtha as feedstock, at Paradeep. A decision thereon will be taken keeping in view all the relevant factors including demand-supply situation in the region, availability of feed-stock, infrastruclure etc. The time frame for its establishment will depend on the grant of a Letter of Intent and the financial resources of the entrepreneur.

Inclusion of Orissa for Production of Rice under the SFPP

*162. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of States selected for rice production under the Special Foodgrains Production Programme;

(b) whether Orissa is proposed to be included for rice production under the above programme; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL) : (a) Thirteen States, Sir.

(b) and (c) Five districts of Orissa viz.; Balasore, Cuttack, Puri, Sambalpur and Ganjam have been included under the Special Foodgrains Production Programme—Rice.

Use of Modern Technnlogy in farming

*166. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister has recently stressed the need to adopt modern techniques in farming to change the face of rural India ;

(b) whether Government have taken any steps to get modern techniques of farming; and

(c) if so, the deatilas thereof and what other steps Government propose to take to make the farming community aware of the modern techniques

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is making special efforts to help the farmers in achieving higher level of production. Several crop varities with better potential, resistance to pests and diseases, and tolerant to stress situations have been developed in wheat, rice, maize, sorghum, pulses, oilseeds, cotton etc. Similarly, many new improved varities have been developed in various vegetable and furit crops. Concentrated efforts are also being made for research in soil and water management, agricultural engineering, animal sciences, fisheries and post-harvest technologies.

With a view to make the farming community aware of the modern techniques, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has planned and implemented the following four major transfer of technology projects :—

(i) National Demonstrations Project (NDP) is operating in 48 districts and organises 5,000 demonstrations on an average every year;

(ii) There are 91 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) and 8 Trainers' Training Centres (TTCs) which are imparting vocational training in agriculture and allied areas. These Krishi Vigyan Kendras organised 7,304 training programmes and trained 1,97,612 farmers, farm women, rural youths and shcool drop-outs in 1988;

(iii) Lab-to-Land Programme (LLP) adopted 24,708 farm families of small and marginal farmers for helping them to learn and adopt simple, low-cost relevant agricultural technologies for crop production and allied vocations; and

(iv) There are 153 Operational Research Projects (ORPs) on watershed management, crop 'proudctic n, mixed farming, dryland farming, plant protection, soil reclamation and fisheries.

A professional agricultural extension service known as 'Training and Visi' (T & V) system of agricultural extension is operating in 17 major States of the country. The T & V system aims at increasing the productivity on farms and the income of the farmers by simultaneously addressing itself to constrints on transfer of the new agricultural technology from research to the farmer and to the feedback from the farmer to suitably orient research and other Government organisation to actual farm problems.

Clearance to the Second Watershed Development Project of Karnataka

*169. SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA; Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka had recently sent a revised proposal to the Union Government for clearance of the proposed second watershed Development project with World Bank assistace:

(b) whether the Union Government have since taken any decision in this regard: and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when the same is likely to be created by the Union Government